Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 3888

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: REORGANIZATION OF ALLIED AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION

REF: USNATO 3585

THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR MENZIES (CANADA)
TO ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL PANSA THAT WITHHOLDS APPROVAL IN
PRINCIPLE OF PLAN BRAVO (REVISED) FOR THE AFCENT/AAFCE COLLOCATED WAR HEADQUARTERS UNTIL THE MANPOWER, COMMUNICATIONS,
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS ARE BETTER
DEFINED. CANADA HAS MERELY NOTED PLAN BRAVO (REVISED), CALLING
THE MILITARY COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM, MCM-33-75 THAT ACCOMPANIED
PLAN BRAVO, A HELPFUL STATUS REPORT. WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT
PLAN BRAVO WILL NEED TO COME BEFORE THE DPC AGAIN; HOWEVER,
WE BELIEVE THAT PLANNING ACTIONS TO DEFINE THE FINANCIAL AND
OTHER IMPLICATIONS CITED IN PLAN BRAVO SHOULD PROCEED ALONG
WITH OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO MAKE AAFCE A VIABLE HEADQUARTERS
IN PEACE AND WAR. FYI; WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY REPRESENTATIVES
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FROM BOTH THE CANADIAN DEFENSE ADVISOR'S OFFICE AND THE CANADIAN MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE MILITARY COMMITTEE THAT AMB MENZIES' LETTER DOES NOT REFLECT AN UNWILLINGNESS TO AGREE WITH THE CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS OUTLINED IN PLAN BRAVO. WE

ALSO URGED THEM TO MAKE THIS POINT CLEAR WITH THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF SO THAT THE DPC DECISION SHEET ON PO/75/83 CAN REFLECT AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE CONCEPT OUTLINED IN PLAN BRAVO. END FYI.

DEAR PAOLO,

BEGIN TEXT:

THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO PO/75/83 OF JULY 2, 1975, FOLLOWING UP THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, MCM-33-75 DATED MAY 23, 1975, ON PLAN BRAVO FOR THE JOINT STATIC WAR HEADQUARTERS FOR AFCENT/AAFCE AT BOERFINK.

WE CONSIDER MCM-33-75 AS A HELPFUL STATUS REPORT ON A PORTION OF THE PLAN FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE ALLIED AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION, THE OUTLINE OF WHICH WAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY DEFENCE MINISTERS IN DECEMBER 1974. MANY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS NEED TO BE STUDIED FURTHER IN RESPECT TO PLAN BRAVO, AND THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS ARE STILL FAR FROM BEING DEFINED. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE CONSIDER THAT THE APPROVAL OF THE PLAN IN PRINCIPLE, WHICH HAS BEEN REQUESTED MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF ALL THE ACTIONS REPORTED AND PROPOSED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN MCM-33-75. THEREFORE, CANADA PROPOSES TO TAKE NOTE OF THE REPORT ONLY AT THIS TIME AND AWAIT ITS FURTHER REFINEMENT.

I AM SENDING A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO MY COLLEAGUES ON THE DPC AND TO THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

END TEXT.

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